

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 6, 2006. Claims 22 to 27 are pending in the application. Claims 22 to 25 have been amended, and Claims 22 and 24 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 22, 24, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,630,949 (Yamagishi); and Claims 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yamagishi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,438,359 (Aoki). Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

The present invention generally concerns a peripheral apparatus connectable to a computer. The peripheral apparatus includes a switch which is turned on by a user or the computer, a control unit which controls the peripheral apparatus, and a power control unit which starts supplying power from a battery connected to the peripheral apparatus to the control unit if the switch is turned on by the user or the computer. A determination is made whether or not a predetermined request is received from the computer if the switch is turned on by the computer. If the switch is turned on by the computer and the control unit then determines that the predetermined request is received from the computer, the peripheral apparatus is controlled to operate as a peripheral apparatus for the computer. If the switch is turned on by the computer and the control unit then determines that the predetermined request is not received from the computer, the power control unit is controlled so as to avoid supplying power from the battery to the control unit.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claims 22 and 24 as amended are respectively directed to an apparatus and a method.

Thus, among its many features, the present invention provides that (i) a peripheral apparatus includes a switch which is turned on by a user or a computer, (ii) a determination is made whether or not a predetermined request is received from the computer if the switch is turned on by the computer, (iii) the peripheral apparatus is controlled to operate as a peripheral apparatus for the computer, if the switch is turned on by the computer and a control unit then determines that the predetermined request is received from the computer, and (iv) the power control unit is controlled so as to avoid supplying power from the battery to the control unit, if the switch is turned on by the computer and the control unit then determines that the predetermined request is not received from the computer. The applied references of Yamagishi and Aoki are not seen to disclose or suggest at least these features.

As understood by Applicant, Yamagishi discloses that when an imaging switch in an operating means 66 is off, a control means 60' instructs an image pickup control circuit 40' to execute the predetermined termination processing necessary for an image pickup apparatus 200. When the imaging switch in the operating means 66 is on, the control means 60' instructs the image pickup control circuit 40' to execute voltage detection. See Yamagishi, column 23, line 54 to column 24, line 3; and Figures 15A to 17A.

As such, Yamagishi is seen to disclose that when an imaging switch in an operating means 66 is off, control means 60' instructs an image pickup control circuit 40' to execute the predetermined termination processing. However, nothing in Yamagishi is seen to disclose or suggest that the control of a peripheral apparatus or a power control unit is

associated with a switch being turned on by a computer and whether or not a predetermined request is received from the computer.

Accordingly, Yamagishi could not be seen to disclose or suggest that that (i) a peripheral apparatus includes a switch which is turned on by a user or a computer, (ii) a determination is made whether or not a predetermined request is received from the computer if the switch is turned on by the computer, (iii) the peripheral apparatus is controlled to operate as a peripheral apparatus for the computer, if the switch is turned on by the computer and a control unit then determines that the predetermined request is received from the computer, and (iv) the power control unit is controlled so as to avoid supplying power from the battery to the control unit, if the switch is turned on by the computer and the control unit then determines that the predetermined request is not received from the computer.

In addition, Aoki has been reviewed and are not seen to compensate for the deficiencies of Yamagishi .

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 22 and 24 as amended are believed to be allowable over the applied references.


The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Finally, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner conduct an interview with Applicant's representative regarding this case, before the Examiner takes this filing into consideration. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's representative as indicated below.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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